torney Docket: <u>01675C/HG</u>

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Akio FUJIBAYASHI et al.

: 10/046,106 Serial No.

Filed : October 24, 2001

: METHOD AND APPARATUS For

FOR COOLING HOT ROLLED

STEEL STRIP, AND

METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING HOT ROLLED STEEL STRIP

Art Unit : 1742

Examiner : Yee

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

his is a response to the OLL.

No. 8) which is a Restriction Requirement U...

The term for responding to the Office Action ends on APROLEMENT OF THE PROPERTY This is a response to the Office Action of March 18, 2003 (Paper No. 8) which is a Restriction Requirement under 35 USC April 18, 2003.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to acknowledge applicants' claim for priority under 35 USC 119 and receipt of the certified copies of the priority documents that were filed on April 3, 2002.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date noted below.

Attorney: Richard S. Barth

Dated: <u>March 28, 2003</u>

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee. or any other fee required in connection with this

Paper, to Account No. 06-1378.